

DECLASSIFIED AND RELEASED BY
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
SOURCE METHOD EXEMPTION 3B2B
NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT
DATE 2006

SUBJECT: Contact Report, TPEMBER, []

20 Feb 53

1. In accordance with my instructions (2030 19 Feb 53), [] called Hochwald in to his office this morning to question him about what material he had given Hoeher.

2. [] stated that Hochwald immediately admitted having had contacts with Hoeher and said that this was the story of how these contacts developed:

a. In line with his TPEMBER official work, Hochwald has made many contacts with various police representatives in West Berlin. Among them was a certain Klank, Abteilung V5, who apparently was in charge of police investigation relative to the kidnapping of Dr Linse. Although this original liaison was developed primarily to mutually investigate the Linse affair, Hochwald felt pressed to develop more East Berlin or East Zone agents (he claims to have had only one, Zimmermann) and asked Klank if he could help him out. Klank did not give him any aid immediately.

b. During October or November 1952, Hochwald met Klank one afternoon in a cafe. While they were sitting there, they were approached by a third man whom Klank introduced as "Helling." It appeared that Helling and Klank were associated in various investigation with which the Police Department did not want its name officially associated. During this first meeting, Helling asked Hochwald if he could gather information about and even talk to a Dr von Szegety, Berlin, Nikolaussee, Krottnauerstrasse 72, telephone: 80 73 90. Although Hochwald was never clear about the reason for this request, he seemed to believe that von Szegety might have been an East Zone agent whose target was the DTLINEN organization.

c. Hochwald subsequently initiated an investigation and talked with von Szegety twice. What little information he did assemble, Hochwald reported to Klank who said that von Szegety was a liar. Shortly after that Helling told Hochwald to drop the investigation. From time to time, thereafter, Hochwald conducted small investigations for Helling, but reported none of these to Ladell or anyone else in TPEMBER. On the other hand, Helling gave Hochwald information which was of value to TPEMBER which Hochwald reported to [] stated that he was able to verify that Hochwald did turn in several reports which Hochwald now says stemmed from Helling. Among these was a report on an East Zone Insane Asylum which was being improperly handled. At the time they were reported, Hochwald did not report his source however. Hochwald stated that he never gave any information concerning TPEMBER to Helling.

d. Hochwald stated that at 1300 14 February 1953, he was to have met Helling at the Cafe Schindig on Wienerstrasse where they had often met before. Helling did not arrive and Hochwald waited for about an hour. At some previous time, Helling had told Hochwald that he (Helling) had a Lotterie Bismarke in the vicinity so Hochwald after sitting, attempted to find this place without success. While he was looking for this shop, Hochwald saw Schmidt, an acquaintance from the Police Department, in a store and dropped over to chat with him. Schmidt told Hochwald that ~~Helling had disappeared~~ Hoeher had apparently been kidnapped, and related the details. Hochwald immediately connected (in his own mind) Hoeher and Helling, but apparently did not tell Schmidt about it at the time.

e. On 16 February 1953, however, Hochwald called Schmidt and told him the story that he was connected with Hoeher and that he had occasionally gathered information for him. (Rosenthal is not completely clear, but he said that Hochwald may have called Schmidt twice on 16 Feb) Also on 16 Feb, Hochwald called Mrs "Helling" and learned what he could from her. (It may have been that he called Mrs Helling first and based upon what she had said, then called Schmidt)

f. On 18 and 19 February 1953, Hochwald attempted to telephone the "Helling" home but received no answer.

g. Until the time of the disappearance, Hochwald stated that he knew Hoeher only by the name "Helling," and it is apparent from the manner in which he made his report to [] that he believes that "Helling" was an "undercover" man for the West Berlin police.

COMMENTS: It might very well be that Hochwald was developed as an unwitting agent for ZIPPER, "unwitting" in the sense that he was unaware of the connections between Hoeher and that organization. Hochwald has demonstrated that he has had a strong desire to become affiliated with an official German agency, the police, Verfassungsschutz or other similar organization.